

Story 1154 (1969 Tape 7) Narrator: Mustafa Aydın Kopalak

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The Rock That Obeyed the Dervish

Close to Antalya there is a village named Elmalı. Elmalı was built alongside a skirt of a large mountain. As time went on, there appeared a large crack in the rock of this mountain which threatened to split the mountain in half. If it should split, one part of it would fall on Elmalı. In order to prevent this from happening, the people connected the two parts of the mountain with a very large chain

After many years had passed, this chain rusted away, allowing one part of the mountain to begin moving toward the village of Elmalı. By this time there was living right at the base of the mountain a dervish named Vahalı Ümmi. When he saw the huge mass of rock moving toward the village, this dervish stepped before it, held up his hand, and said, "O rock, you have already come far enough. Stop!"

When the rock heard this command, it stopped. Not only did it stop, but it also moved back fifteen or twenty meters. That rock remained there and never moved again. It is named Zincirlikaya.¹ It is painted white, and it can be seen from

¹ The word means chained rock

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almost anywhere you look in Elmalı. The tomb of that dervish was built about sixty meters away from that rock, and it can be clearly seen. Tourists often come to see that rock.